GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2368
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Use of UAVs
Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken a decision on commercial use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) including drones, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of consultations and talks held with the Defence Ministry regarding the safety issues on commercial use of UAVs;

(c) whether the Ministry has identified a regulatory body that would regulate the commercial use of UAVs;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is an institutional body setup /being created by the Ministry to issue permits and unique identification number for drone operations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken from the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) Keeping in view the risks and threat to safety of manned aircraft and strategically important establishments, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has restricted civil use of drones/ unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) by non-Government agencies, organizations or individual vide public notice dated 07-10-2014 to regulate unwarranted use of UAS until regulations for UAS are in place. International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has not issued Standards And Recommended Practices (SARPs) for certification and operation of civil UAS. However, as an interim measure DGCA has finalized a draft Air Transport Circular regarding ?Guidelines for obtaining Unique Identification Number (UIN) & Operation of Civil Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)? in consultation with various stakeholders including agencies like MHA, Ministry of Defence(MoD). DGCA had uploaded the guidelines on DGCA website on 22-04-2016 for public comments.

(b) The Public comments received were deliberated with all concerned Government agencies including Ministry of Defence during meetings held in DGCA Hqrs on 3rd & 8th June, 2016.;

(c) The Government has not identified any regulatory body that would regulate the commercial use of UAVs.;

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to Part (c) ;

(e) & (f) As mentioned in reply to Part (a), DGCA has framed a draft Air Transport Circular regarding "Guidelines for obtaining Unique Identification Number (UIN) & Operation of Civil Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)" in consultation with various stakeholders including agencies like MHA, MoD.